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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

BHATIA, AJAY M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2145

DATE MAILED: 11/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Best Available Copy

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/881,225

Applicant(s)

GOLDMAN ET AL.

Examiner

Ajay M Bhatia

Art Unit

2143

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6-12-2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 2145

1. Claims 1-20 are pending.
2. Claims 1-20 are rejected.

Specification

3. This application make reference to a 1994 interface in paragraph 12, it is assumed the applicants are referring to a 1394 interface. A proper Correction is required.
4. This application is lacking the Brief Summary of the Invention. And appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
7. The term "unwritable" in claim 17 is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "unwritable" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. (The interpretation of unwritable can be construed in multiple ways from CD-ROM or Zip device that is

Art Unit: 2145

locked and prevented from being written to (See Paragraph 10 of Specification) or a CD-ROM, which cannot be written to (See Paragraph 13 of Specification). For the purposes of this office action an unwritable device is any device that is currently prevented from being written to for example, a Zip device that has been locked and prevented from being writing to or a hard drive that is accessible in read-only mode).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. Claims 1-12, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Blumenau et al. referred to as Blumenau for the purposes of this office action (U.S. Patent 6,665,714).

9. For claim 1, Blumenau teaches, a method comprising:
detecting attachment of a shared resource to a server; (see Blumenau, Col. 6 line 62 to Col.7 line 12)

querying the shared resource for a share indicator; and (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 20-25 and Col. 9 lines 35-59)

applying share allocation defined by the share indicator if the share indicator is present.
(see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 25-31)

10. For claim 2, Blumenau teaches, the method of Claim 1 wherein querying comprises;
determining if a share directory is present on the shared resource; and
determining if a share file is in the share directory. (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 24-31)

11. For claim 3, Blumenau teaches, the method of Claim 2 wherein queuing further comprises;
determining if a checksum file exists in the share directory; and
validating a checksum in the checksum file. (see Blumenau, Col. 16 lines 28-40)

12. For claim 4, Blumenau teaches, the method of Claim 1 further comprising:
creating a share indicator on the shared resource if the share indicator is not present.
(see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 15-20 and Col. 9 lines 35-59)

13. For claim 5, Blumenau teaches, the method of Claim 4 wherein creating comprises:
creating a share directory on the shared resource; and

Art Unit: 2145

creating a share file in the share directory. (see Blumenau, Col. 6 lines 42-61)

14. For claim 6, Blumenau teaches, the method of Claim 5 wherein creating further comprises:

creating a checksum file in the share directory; and

writing a checksum in the checksum file. (see Blumenau, Col. 16 lines 28-40)

15. For claim 7, Blumenau teaches, a computer readable storage media containing executable computer program instructions which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method comprising:

detecting attachment of a shared resource to a server; (see Blumenau, Col. 6 line 62 to Col. 7 line 12)

querying the shared resource for a share indicator; and (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 20-25 and Col. 9 lines 35-59)

applying share allocation defined by the share indicator if the share indicator is present. (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 24-31)

16. For claim 8, Blumenau teaches, the computer readable storage media of Claim 7 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:

determining if a share directory is present on the shared resource; and

determining if a share file is in the share directory. (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 24-31 and Col. 9 lines 35-59)

17. For claim 9, Blumenau teaches, the computer readable storage media of Claim 8 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:

determining if a checksum file exists in the share directory; and

validating a checksum in the checksum file. (see Blumenau, Col. 16 lines 28-40)

18. For claim 10, Blumenau teaches, the computer readable storage media of Claim 7 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:

creating a share indicator on the shared resource if the share indicator is not present.

(see Blumenau, Col. 6 lines 42-61 and Col. 9 35-59)

19. For claim 11, Blumenau teaches, the computer readable storage media of Claim 10 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:

creating a share directory on the shared resource; and

creating a share file in the share directory. (see Blumenau, Col. 6 lines 42-61 and Col. 9 lines 39-59)

Art Unit: 2145

20. For claim 12, Blumenau teaches, the computer readable storage media of Claim 11 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:

creating a checksum file in the share directory; and

writing a checksum in the checksum file. (see Blumenau, Col. 16 lines 28-40)

21. For claim 19, Blumenau teaches, a method comprising:

maintaining a descriptor table on a server in a non-volatile memory for a plurality of known devices; (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 33-38)

detecting attachment of a device to the server; (see Blumenau, Col. 6 line 62 to Col. 7 line 12)

determining if the device is one of the plurality of known devices; and (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 20-25)

applying a share allocation from the descriptor table upon attachment if the device is one of the plurality of known devices. (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 25-31)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 2145

22. Claims 13-15 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Blumenau (U.S. Patent 6,665,714) in view of Russell (U.S. Patent 5,841,991).

23. For claim 13, Blumenau teaches, a system comprising:
a processor; (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 22-32)
a non-volatile storage unit coupled to the processor, the non-volatile storage unit to a memory coupled to the processor to store a shared resource table to identify share allocation of shared devices coupled to the system. (see Blumenau, Col. 8 lines 42-58)

Blumenau fails to teach, store a descriptor table having an entry identifying share allocation for a known storage free device; and

Russell teaches, store a descriptor table having an entry identifying share allocation for a known storage free device; and (see Russell, Col. 4 lines 31-53)

It would be obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the system of Blumenau with the method of Russell because it allows the peripheral to be a responsive, intelligent member of a network. (see Russell, Col. 2 lines 20-24)

Art Unit: 2145

24. For claim 14, Blumenau-Russell teaches, the system of Claim 13 further comprising:

a writable shared resource coupled to the processor, the writable shared resource containing a share directory. (see Blumenau, Col. 6 lines 42-61), The same motivation that was utilizes in the rejection of claim 13, applies equally as well to claim 14.

25. For claim 15, Blumenau-Russell teaches, the system of Claim 14 wherein the share directory contains:

a share file; and (see Blumenau, Col. 6 lines 42-61)
a check sum file. (see Blumenau, Col. 16 lines 28-40), The same motivation that was utilizes in the rejection of claim 13 and 14, applies equally as well to claim 15.

26. For claim 17, Blumenau-Russell teaches, the system of Claim 13 further comprising:

an unwritable shared resource wherein the processor detects connection of the unwritable shared resource and automatically adds an entry to the descriptor table responsive to the connection. (see Russell, Col. 4 lines 31-53) , The same motivation that was utilizes in the rejection of claim 13, applies equally as well to claim 17.

27. For claim 18, Blumenau-Russell teaches, the system of Claim 13 further comprising:

Art Unit: 2145

a writable shared resource wherein the processor detects connection of the writable shared resource and automatically adds an entry to the shared resources table responsive to the connection. (see Blumenau, Col. 6 lines 42-61) , The same motivation that was utilizes in the rejection of claim 13, applies equally as well to claim 18.

28. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Blumenau-Russell as applied to claim 13, in further view of Fisher et al. referred to as Fisher for the purposes of this office action (U.S. Patent 6,513,101).

29. For claim 16, Blumenau teaches, a system comprising:

a processor; (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 22-32)

a non-volatile storage unit coupled to the processor, the non-volatile storage unit to a memory coupled to the processor to store a shared resource table to identify share allocation of shared devices coupled to the system. (see Blumenau, Col. 8 lines 42-58)

Blumenau fails to teach, store a descriptor table having an entry identifying share allocation for a known storage free device; and

Russell teaches, store a descriptor table having an entry identifying share allocation for a known storage free device; and (see Russell, Col. 4 lines 31-53)

It would be obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the system of Blumenau with the method of Russell because it allows the peripheral to be a responsive, intelligent member of a network. (see Russell, Col. 2 lines 20-24)

Blumenau-Russell fails to teach, the system of Claim 13 wherein the processor ages out the entry if the known device is not present for a period of time.

Fisher teaches, the system of Claim 13 wherein the processor ages out the entry if the known device is not present for a period of time. (see Fisher, Col. 7 lines 6-20)

It would be obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the system of Blumenau with the methods of Russell and Fisher because Fisher describes a storage library manger witch reduces the amount of wasted space. (see Col. 2 lines 16-20 and Col. 2 lines 40-44)

30. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Blumenau (U.S. Patent 6,665,714) in view of Fisher (U.S. Patent 6,513,101).

31. For claim 20, Blumenau teaches, a method comprising:
maintaining a descriptor table on a server in a non-volatile memory for a plurality of known devices; (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 33-38)

Art Unit: 2145

detecting attachment of a device to the server; (see Blumenau, Col. 6 line 62 to Col. 7 line 12)

determining if the device is one of the plurality of known devices; and (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 20-25)

applying a share allocation from the descriptor table upon attachment if the device is one of the plurality of known devices. (see Blumenau, Col. 5 lines 25-31)

Blumenau fails to teach, the method of Claim 19 further comprising:

aging out entries from the descriptor table after a corresponding known device has been detached for a period of time.

Fisher teaches, the method of Claim 19 further comprising:

aging out entries from the descriptor table after a corresponding known device has been detached for a period of time. (see Fisher, Col. 7 lines 6-20)

It would be obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the system of Blumenau with the method of Fisher because Fisher describes a storage library manger witch reduces the amount of wasted space. (see Col. 2 lines 16-20 and Col. 2 lines 40-44)

Conclusion

Art Unit: 2145

32. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent Number 6,807,632, Carpentier et al. , is creates a hash for each file that is on the saved to the device.

U.S. Patent Number 6,327,613, Goshey et al., is a system to share peripheral and any other SCSI device across a network.

U.S. Patent Number 6,067,545, Wolff et al., describes a system that periodically notices changes in the network and changes to those changes. Rebalancing the resources based on the changes to the network.

U.S. Pre-grant Publication 20040162921, Teow et al., describes a SAN management device that recognized different SCSI and other type of devices and represent these devices to remote host computers.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ajay M Bhatia whose telephone number is (571)-272-3906. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on (571)-272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2145

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AB

Will C. Vaughn
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2143
William C. Vaughn, Jr.

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